

District Judge James L. Robart

UNITED STATES DISTRICT COURT FOR THE  
WESTERN DISTRICT OF WASHINGTON  
AT SEATTLE

SEA SHEPHERD LEGAL,

Plaintiff,

v.

NATIONAL OCEANIC AND  
ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION, *et*  
*al.*,

Defendants.

Case No. C20-1412 JLR

JOINT STATUS REPORT AND  
~~PROPOSED~~ ORDER

Noted for Consideration:  
March 23, 2021

Plaintiff SEA SHEPHERD LEGAL (“Plaintiff”) filed the above-captioned lawsuit under the Freedom of Information Act (“FOIA”) against Defendants NATIONAL OCEANIC AND ATMOSPHERIC ADMINISTRATION and NATIONAL MARINE FISHERIES SERVICES (collectively, “Defendants”), seeking disclosure of certain documents. *Sea Shepherd Legal v. NOAA, et al.*, 19-cv-463-JLR is a related case before the Court. By order dated January 26, 2021, the Court granted the parties’ stipulated request to submit a joint status report within 60 days. *See* Dkt. No. 19. Pursuant to the Court’s order, the parties now submit this joint status report.

The parties continue to attempt to resolve this litigation without further judicial intervention. Defendants made the first production of responsive records to Sea Shepherd Legal on January 29, 2021. Defendants have approximately 2,800 potentially responsive records to process. They intend to make the next production by April 15, 2021 and complete the productions within six months. The parties agree that this may resolve the substantive portion of this case, except for attorneys' fees. Accordingly, the parties respectfully request that they be permitted to file a joint status report within the next 60 days. If at any time in the next 60 days it becomes apparent that resolution between the parties is not feasible, they will submit a joint briefing schedule to the Court.

Dated this 23rd day of March 2021.

s/ Brett W. Sommermeyer  
BRETT W. SOMMERMEYER, WSBA # 30003

s/ Catherine E. Pruett  
CATHERINE E. PRUETT, WA BAR # 35140

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*Attorneys for Plaintiff*

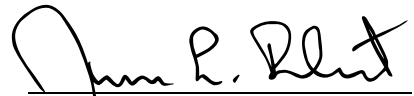
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*Attorneys for Defendants*

**ORDER**

Having reviewed the parties' stipulated motion, the Court finds good cause shown for the parties to continue working towards a resolution of this matter. The parties shall submit a joint status report to the Court on or before May 21, 2021.

Dated this 24th day of March 2021.

  
JAMES L. ROBART  
United States District Judge